

He probably wasn't treated just right as a boy, and he's probably just sick rather than being bad! After all we have great sympathy for him. But the Psalmist says, "Thou wilt slay the wicked O God. Depart from me therefore ye bloody men for they speak against thee wickedly." He doesn't say they are talking against me. He does not say they are saying things against me personally. They speak against God, and "thine enemies take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O Lord" -- not that they have done evil to me. Not that I find qualities I don't like in them. Them that hate thee. Am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee. I hate them with perfect hatred. I count them mine enemies.

That's a strange statement, isn't it? Perfect hatred. Can hatred be perfect. Can anything be ~~per~~ spoken of as perfect that does such terrible harm as hatred does? We have the OT with all this hatred. But then we have the meek and lowly Jesus who always was so loving and kind to everybody. Was he always so loving and kind to everybody?

I turn here to Mat. 23 and read v. 13: "Woe to you scribes, pharisees, hypocrites for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men. You neither go in yourselves nor permit them that are entering to go in. Woe unto you scribes, pharisees, hypocrites, for ye devour widows houses, and for a pretense make long prayers, which shall receive the greater damnation. Woe unto you scribes, pharisees hypocrites, for ye compass sea and land to ~~p~~ make one proselyte and when he is found you make him twofold more a child of hell than yourselves." That's the meek and lowly Jesus! You look at the Gospels and you find Jesus was most kindly and loving to those who mistreated him, but those who attacked the Word of God, those who injured the little ones, those who led people astray, the language that Jesus uses is as strong as anything you find anywhere in the OT. The Bible is one, and your wonderful statements of love and of beauty in the NT can be paralleled in the OT many times. When Jesus wanted to give his great statement: Love your neighbor, he quoted from the OT. But the statements in the OT that sound another way must be interpreted and seen that they fit with the NT and they do not give something that is of an earlier step that we've gotten away from but they are a revelation of God's truth. They are an aspect of God's truth it is our duty to be aware of, to understand and to properly apply in our hearts and lives.

Do not I hate them, O Lord that hate thee. Am not I grieved with